

Administrative Notice DMMA-06-2009

TO: All DMMA Staff

DATE: October 29, 2009

SUBJECT: SSI-Related Income Limits for Medical Assistance

BACKGROUND

The Social Security Administration typically implements the annual cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) effective every January. The amount of the COLA is based on data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics and is derived from changes in the Consumer Price Index.

DISCUSSION

Due to a decline in the Consumer Price Index, there will not be a COLA in 2010. The SSI standard will remain at \$674.00 for an individual and \$1,011.00 for a couple. The income standard for the 30-day acute care hospital program is equal to the SSI standard. The income standard for Long Term Care Programs and the Children's Community Alternative Disability program is equal to 250% of the SSI standard. Effective January 1, 2010 the income standard for these programs will remain at:

\$1,685.00 for an individual

\$2,528.00 for a couple

Each individual will have \$20.00 of his or her available income disregarded in order to determine eligibility. There is no \$20.00 disregard for "needs" based income such as VA pensions. There is only one \$20.00 disregard from the total combined income for a couple. The income standards with the \$20.00 disregard added will remain at:

\$1,705.00 for an individual

\$2,548.00 for a couple

There is no change in the resource limit.

The 2010 Medicare premiums are as follows:

Part A

\$461.00

Part B

\$96.40 (if beneficiary had
premium withheld from SSA in 2009)

\$110.50 (for all others)

(For individuals earning less than \$85,000 annually)

ACTION REQUIRED

None

DIRECT INQUIRIES TO

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Rosanne Mahaney, ACTING DIRECTOR
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RM:mr